



East Central Idaho News

BONNEVILLE, BUTTE, CLARK, CUSTER, FREMONT, JEFFERSON, LEMHI, MADISON & TETON COUNTIES

WAGE INFORMATION RELEASED FOR IDAHO FALLS MSA

For the first time, specific wage information is available for the Idaho Falls Metropolitan Statistical Area, which includes Bonneville and Jefferson counties. Until 2007 the annual wage survey lumped the Idaho Falls area in with the 14 other counties of eastern and southeastern Idaho except for Bannock County and Pocatello. The 2007 wage data also splits out the Pocatello Metropolitan Statistical Area, which includes Bannock and Power counties. Information for the 12 counties not in either metropolitan area is included under southeastern Idaho excluding Pocatello MSA and Idaho Falls MSA.

The wage data consists of detailed occupational titles, the estimated employment in that occupation, average wage, median wage, entry wage and a middle wage range. The wage data is gleaned from businesses selected from throughout the state. Since the Idaho Falls metro area is now listed separately, the wages better reflect what people make in the urban area, and separating out the other 12 counties better reflects rural wages. However, this section includes much of the Idaho National Laboratory since most of its facilities are in Butte County. Therefore, employers need to take that into account if they use the occupational categories in the rural counties. That has always been the case, but now Bonneville, Jefferson and Power counties have been extracted.

The official publication, Occupational Employment and Wage Report, also includes sections on the Boise-Nampa, Coeur d'Alene and Lewiston metropolitan areas, the northern, southwestern and south central counties outside those urban areas and the

East Central Idaho Table 1: Idaho Falls MSA Labor Force & Employment Bonneville and Jefferson counties

	Aug 2007*	Jul 2007	Aug 2006	% Change From	
				Last Month	Last Year
INDIVIDUALS BY PLACE OF RESIDENCE					
<i>Seasonally Adjusted</i>					
Civilian Labor Force	57,990	58,290	56,130	-0.5	3.3
Unemployment	1,070	1,070	1,310	0.0	-18.3
% of Labor Force Unemployed	1.8%	1.8%	2.3%		
Total Employment	56,920	57,210	54,820	-0.5	3.8
<i>Unadjusted</i>					
Civilian Labor Force	58,820	59,640	57,290	-1.4	2.7
Unemployment	920	870	1,460	5.7	-37.0
% of Labor Force Unemployed	1.6%	1.5%	2.5%		
Total Employment	57,890	58,770	55,830	-1.5	3.7
JOBS BY PLACE OF WORK					
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs** - NAICS	52,410	52,240	50,940	0.3	2.9
<i>Goods-Producing Industries</i>	8,530	8,510	8,400	0.2	1.5
Natural Resources & Mining	20	10	10	100.0	100.0
Construction	5,100	5,060	4,980	0.8	2.4
Manufacturing	3,410	3,440	3,410	-0.9	0.0
Food Manufacturing	970	1,030	970	-5.8	0.0
Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing	660	330	260	100.0	153.8
Machinery Manufacturing	150	150	170	0.0	-11.8
Other Manufacturing	1,630	1,930	2,010	-15.5	-18.9
<i>Service-Providing Industries</i>	43,880	43,730	42,540	0.3	3.1
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	13,730	13,750	13,500	-0.1	1.7
Wholesale Trade	3,930	3,970	4,010	-1.0	-2.0
Retail Trade	7,930	7,890	7,700	0.5	3.0
Utilities	70	70	60	0.0	16.7
Transportation	1,800	1,820	1,730	-1.1	4.0
Information	1,230	1,240	1,260	-0.8	-2.4
Financial Activities	2,310	2,310	2,200	0.0	5.0
Professional & Business Services	6,220	6,110	5,790	1.8	7.4
Educational & Health Services	7,310	7,230	6,880	1.1	6.3
Leisure & Hospitality	4,700	4,630	4,730	1.5	-0.6
Other Services	1,970	1,980	2,090	-0.5	-5.7
Government Education	2,670	2,690	2,580	-0.7	3.5
Government Administration	3,740	3,790	3,510	-1.3	6.6

*Preliminary Estimate

**Full- or part-time jobs of people who worked for or received wages in the pay period including the 12th of the month

entire state. It can be found on the Web at lmi.idaho.gov. Scroll down the home page below the image of the report, and the data tables can be accessed in PDF or Excel format. There are also cross regional tables for comparing occupations throughout the state. More information on the entire report starts on page 3 of this newsletter.

The Standard Occupational Classification Code assigned to every occupation is the same nationwide so comparison can be made. Other state and national information can be found by scrolling down

to Related Links on the bottom right side of the page. Look for National Wage Data and Data for Other States.

AREA DEVELOPMENTS

BONNEVILLE COUNTY

- Retailer Fred Meyers has filed plans to build a five-pump fuel stop and kiosk in the parking lot of the shopping center it occupies in Idaho Falls. It will probably be similar to the gas station at Smith's Grocery since both Smith's and Fred Meyers are owned by the Kroger Co.
- Bonneville County received a \$1.24 million state grant to build treatment rooms and office space at the county jail. Bonneville County's proposal was one of four considered from throughout the state. The grant comes from money appropriated by the Idaho Legislature for a community based multi-agency project focused on reducing incarceration rates by addressing issues that commonly land people in jail. The additional space will support substance abuse and mental health treatment programs and will serve 10 eastern Idaho counties. Treatment will begin in fall 2008.

ADISON COUNTY

- The Rexburg Idaho temple of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, which has been under construction for over two years, is nearing completion. The First Presidency of the church announced the public is invited to an open house from Dec. 29 to Jan. 26, excluding Sundays. The temple will be dedicated Feb. 3 in four sessions. The temple is located at the corner of 7th South and 2nd East in the Rexburg foothills.



The nearly-completed Rexburg temple of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints plans an open house from Dec. 29 to Jan. 26.

- Rexburg has a new city program to turn trash into money. The city partnered with Barney's Towing and Recovery to provide recycling bins. In fact, Barney's bought a bailer and signed a contract with a recycling broker to keep recycling services in the city rather than hauling the material to Idaho Falls. This way, garbage fees will be reduced and Barney's will pay the city for its recyclables with the extra money going to the city's parks and recreation program. Since the bins have been placed, the city is getting larger than anticipated response and has noticed that many other counties are using the bins. The partnership is quite pleased with the overall effect. The bins are located in front of City Hall, Wal-Mart, Albertsons and Broulim's.

LEMHI COUNTY

- An historic mine in Shoup, 40 miles northwest of Salmon, was destroyed by fire. The Gold Hill Mine, a tourist attraction that served as a popular stopping point for river recreationists was completely burned in a 10-acre fire, but a mock mine entrance was not touched. The mine once brought about 600 residents to the area in the late 19th Century at the height of the gold rush. Shoup now has only a handful of residents with its anchor, the Shoup Store, known for its homemade milkshakes. Owners John and Patty Hulihan did not lose their house in the fire, even though it was damaged a week later by a boulder tumbling down the mountain. The house can be salvaged.

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